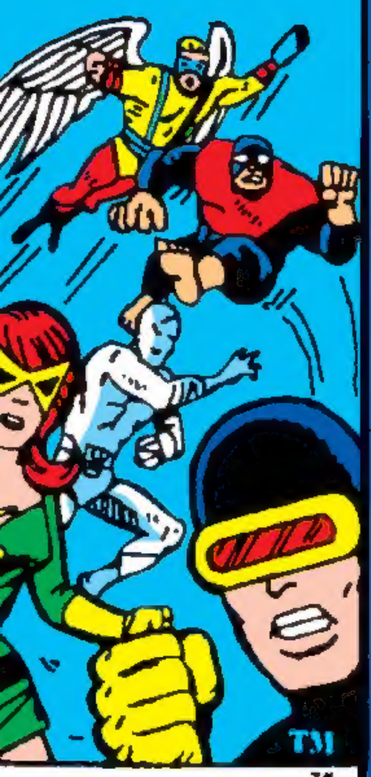

MARVEL COMICS GROUP

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The X-MEN™ FEATURING:

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THE END OF THE X-MEN!

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DURING THE WEEKS SINCE THE DEATH AND FUNERAL OF ***PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER,*** HIS YOUNG PROTEGES, ***THE X-MEN,*** HAVE HAD LITTLE TIME TO FULLY COMPREHEND THE EFFECT HIS TRAGIC PASSING WILL HAVE ON THEIR LIVES--BUT NOW, AT LAST, WITH THE DREAD MENACE OF ***MAGNETO*** FINALLY ENDED*, THE FIVE GRIEVING TEEN-AGERS FIND THEMSELVES ALONE--WITH ALL DREAMS OF THE FUTURE ENSHROUDED BY AN ALL-ENVELOPING BLANKET OF ***GRIEF...***

*AS WITNESSED IN ***AVENGERS #53!*** --SOLEMN STAN.

EDITED BY...
STAN LEE
WRITTEN BY...
GARY FRIEDRICH
LAID OUT BY...
DON HECK
PENCILLED BY...
WERNER ROTH
INKED BY...
JOHN TARTAGLIONE
LETTERED BY...
ARTIE SIMEK

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THIS IS OUR FIRST CHANCE TO THINK WHAT LIFE WILL BE LIKE *WITH-OUT* THE PROFESSOR...

...AND YET, SUCH A LIFE IS SOMEHOW IMPOSSIBLE TO *COMPREHEND!*

WHILE WE WERE BATTLING *MAGNETO*, WHAT THE PROFESSOR HAD TAUGHT US WAS SO INDELIBLY IMPRESSED ON OUR MINDS...

...THAT IT SEEMED HE WAS THERE *WITH* US!

...BUT, *NOW...*

NOW I SUPPOSE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF KEEPING THE X-MEN TOGETHER FALLS ON *MY SHOULDERS...*

...SINCE THE PROFESSOR DESIGNATED ME *DEPUTY LEADER!*

BUT, I CAN'T *IMAGINE* CARRYING ON *WITHOUT* HIM!

HE WAS SO *YOUNG* ...AND SO *GOOD!* EVEN THOUGH HE TOLD ME WEEKS AGO THAT HE WAS DYING...

...IT STILL SEEMS LIKE A *HORRIBLE DREAM* AND I KEEP PRAYING I'LL *WAKE UP!*

YET, THE DEATH OF THEIR MENTOR IS NOT FANTASY-- BUT RATHER, COLD, CRUEL *FACT...*

--FACT WHICH IS AS INESCAPABLE AS THE STIFF, BONE-CHILLING BREEZE WHICH HOWLS THROUGH THE LONELY CEMETARY IN WHICH THEY STAND...IN STUNNED *SILENCE!*

HOWEVER, FOR SUCH AS THE *X-MEN*, SOLITUDE CANNOT BE FOUND EVEN *THERE!* FOR, THE SILENCE WHICH SURROUNDS THEM IS SUDDENLY *SHATTERED...*

PARDON MY INTRUSION AT A TIME LIKE THIS...

...BUT IT'S URGENT THAT I *TALK* TO YOU...AS SOON AS *POSSIBLE!*

WHA... WHO *ARE* YOU? WHAT DO YOU *WANT?*

CAN'T YOU SEE WE WANT TO BE *LEFT ALONE?*

HOLD ON, HANK! I THINK I *KNOW* THAT MAN--!

I'M AMOS DUNCAN... FBI! I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT REMEMBER ME, SUMMERS!*

WHERE CAN WE TALK?

I'M AFRAID NONE OF US IS MUCH IN THE MOOD FOR A CHAT, MR. DUNCAN--!

I KNOW HOW YOU ALL FEEL-- BUT THIS IS URGENT!

*AND WE'RE HOPING YOU REMEMBER HIM, TOO-- FROM CYKE'S ORIGIN IN ISH #39! --STAN.

OH...THEN I GUESS WE COULD GO BACK TO THE SCHOOL!

JUST FOLLOW ME, MR. DUNCAN!

I CAN'T PROMISE WE'LL BE VERY RESPONSIVE-- BUT AT LEAST WE CAN MAKE YOU COMFORTABLE!

WHAT COULD THE FBI POSSIBLY WANT WITH US--AND HOW DOES SCOTT KNOW THIS GUY?

OH, WELL--THE SCHOOL'S JUST A FEW BLOCKS AWAY... SO I GUESS WE'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH!

HOWEVER, THE ANSWER TO WARREN WORTHINGTON'S QUERIES ARE DESTINED TO BE TEMPORARILY POSTPONED...

FOR, WHEN THE YOUNG MUTANTS ARRIVE AT THE SCHOOL, THEY FIND...

FOGGY NELSON...OF NELSON AND MURDOCK! YOU ASKED ME TO DROP IN AND READ THE PROFESSOR'S WILL!

OH...UH, CERTAINLY! FORGIVE ME FOR BEING STARTLED TO FIND YOU HERE!

I GUESS NONE OF US HAS REALLY BEEN HIMSELF LATELY!

WILL? I DON'T GUESS ANY OF US HAD EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT THAT--EXCEPT FOR SCOTTY!

WE SHOULD AT LEAST BE CURIOUS ABOUT IT...BUT...

I UNDERSTAND THIS ISN'T AN EASY TIME FOR YOU-- SO IF YOU'D PREFER I COME BACK LATER...

THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY! WE HAVE TO FACE THE TRUTH SOMETIME... SO WE MIGHT AS WELL START NOW!

ALLRIGHT! IF YOU'LL ALL HAVE A SEAT--WE'LL GET RIGHT DOWN TO BUSINESS!

I'LL SIMPLY READ THE WILL AS HE WORDED IT--THEN YOU CAN ASK ANY QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT HAVE!

"IN THE EVENT OF MY DEATH, IT IS MY WISH THAT MY ESTATE BE DISPOSED OF IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER..."

"ALL OF MY FINANCIAL ASSETS ARE TO BE PLACED IN A SPECIAL, CHARITABLE FUND-- THE ADMINISTRATOR OF WHICH SHALL BE SCOTT SUMMERS!"

THAT WOULD BE THE FUND TO HELP GIFTED CHILDREN... MUTANTS LIKE OURSELVES

THE PROFESSOR ONCE MENTIONED IT TO ME!

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I JUST... CAN'T SEEM TO *CONCENTRATE!* IT'S ALL TOO *PAINFUL*...FILLED WITH TOO MANY *MEMORIES!*

"MY SCHOOL FOR GIFTED CHILDREN I BEQUEATH TO MY *FIVE CURRENT STUDENTS*--WITH SCOTT SUMMERS TO ACT AS *TRUSTEE!*"

"AND I, IN TURN, DONATE ALL OF MY PERSONAL *SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT* TO SAID SCHOOL!"

EVEN THOUGH HE KNEW HE WAS DYING, THE PROFESSOR MADE CERTAIN THAT *WE* WERE PROVIDED FOR...SO WE COULD *CARRY ON* WHEN HE WAS...*GONE!*

"IT IS LIKEWISE MY WISH THAT ALL MY *PERSONAL BELONGINGS* BE TURNED OVER TO MY STUDENTS..."

HE...REALLY *HAD* NO ONE BUT US! WE WERE... HIS ONLY *FAMILY!*

I...I CAN'T *TAKE* MUCH MORE OF THIS! IF IT GOES ON MUCH LONGER, I'LL...

"...AND ANY OF MY BELONGINGS THEY DO NOT WISH TO KEEP, SHALL BE DONATED TO *CHARITY!*"

I BELIEVE THAT'S *IT*, GENTLEMEN... AND MISS GREY! OF COURSE, THIS WILL ALL BE TIED UP IN *PROBATE* FOR A WHILE!

WE *UNDERSTAND*...AND WE'RE SURE YOU'LL HANDLE THINGS IN OUR *BEST INTERESTS!*

WE'LL DO OUR *BEST!*

THEN LET US SEE YOU TO YOUR CAR!

THANKS AGAIN FOR *EVERYTHING*, MR. NELSON! WE'LL LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU WHEN ALL THE *TECHNICALITIES* ARE CLEARED UP!

SO LONG...AND GOOD LUCK IN YOUR CAMPAIGN FOR *DISTRICT ATTORNEY!**

YOU'RE MORE THAN WELCOME! IT'S A PLEASURE TO DO BUSINESS WITH STRAIGHT-THINKING YOUNGSTERS LIKE *YOU!*

GOODBYE!

*AND IF YOU HAVEN'T JOINED FOGGY'S BANDWAGON YET, THERE'S STILL TIME FOR YOU TO HOP ABOARD IT IN THE CURRENT ISSUE OF *DAREDEVIL!*--STUMPER STAN.

SORRY TO KEEP YOU *WAITING*, MR. DUNCAN--BUT THE READING JUST COULDN'T BE *PUT OFF* ANY LONGER!

NOW, WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED TO *SEE* US ABOUT?

A MATTER OF SUCH *GRAVE IMPORTANCE*--THAT IT MAY WELL EFFECT THE FUTURE OF THE *ENTIRE WORLD!*

HOWEVER, AT THAT VERY INSTANT, AN EVEN MORE DANGEROUS MENACE THAN THAT OF WHICH AGENT DUNCAN *SPEAKS* IS ABOUT TO RAISE ITS HELL-SPAWNED HEAD...

FOR, LURKING IN THE FAR-FLUNG DIMENSIONS OF THE *CRIMSON COSMOS* --WAITING TO BE UN-LEASHED--IS THE X-MEN'S MOST DANGEROUS FOE OF ALL--

--THE JUGGERNAUT!

AND, AN INSTANT LATER, HIS AWESOME FIGURE IS SUD-DENLY, INEXPLICABLY ENSHROUDED IN A BLINDING, BLAZING FLASH OF *LIGHT*...

ZASSK!

...WHICH LEAVES IN ITS DEADLY WAKE ONLY THE VAST, ENDLESS VOID OF A UNIVERSE IN WHICH THE JUGGERNAUT WALKS *NO MORE!*

THEN, IN BUT THE TWINKLING OF AN *EYE*, IN THE LABORATORY OF *CHARLES XAVIER*...

HE'S *DONE* IT...JUST LIKE I *KNEW* HE WOULD! MY STUPID STEPBROTHER HAS *FREED* ME FROM THE CRIMSON COSMOS!

AND, *THIS* TIME HIS SENTIMENTAL HOPES OF RESTOR-ING ME TO HIS ONCE WEAK RELATIVE *CAIN MARKO*--WILL LEAD TO HIS *DEATH!*

FOR *THIS* TIME THERE'LL BE NO *DEFEAT* FOR ME! THIS TIME...THE JUGGERNAUT WILL *WIN!* NOTHING ON EARTH CAN *STOP* ME!*

*JUST IN CASE ANYONE *MISSED* THE PAST CLASSICAL STRUGGLES BETWEEN JUGGY AND THE PROF, YOU CAN READ UP ON 'EM IN *X-MEN #12-13 & 32-33!* --SOFT-HEARTED STAN.

BUT, BEFORE I POLISH OFF THAT MEDDLER, I'LL STOP THE COSTUMED CLODS WHO *PROTECT* HIM!

I'VE BEATEN THEM BEFORE, OR WOULD HAVE IF MY ACCURSED STEP-BROTHER HADN'T *INTERFERED!*

IF THEY ONLY HAVE THE GUTS TO *SHOW* THEM-SELVES--THE X-MEN'S *LAST BATTLE* IS AT HAND!

BUT FIRST, I'LL SMASH THE MACHINE THAT *BROUGHT ME BACK*... TO BE SURE IT CAN NEVER *RETURN* ME!

THERE! NOW THE JUGGERNAUT WALKS THE EARTH FOR *GOOD*--SO BRING ON THE *X-MEN!*

AND, AT THAT SAME MOMENT, LITTLE DOES THE DEMONAIC DYNAMO REALIZE HOW CLOSE HIS WISH IS TO BEING *GRANTED*...

PLAUDITS, DEPUTY LEADER, FOR YOUR EXPEDIENT EXCUSE TO FREE US FROM *AGENT DUNCAN!*

THAT WAS NO *EXCUSE*, HANK! I *DID* FEEL A TREMOR!

I DIDN'T HAVE YOU CHANGE TO YOUR *COSTUMES* FOR A MASQUERADE!

SOME-THING BLEW UP IN THE *BASE-MENT*-- AND WE'D BETTER FIND OUT *WHAT!*

WE ALREADY *HAVE*, LEADER-MAN--BUT I CAN'T *BELIEVE* IT!

IT'S...

THE JUGGERNAUT! HE WAS LOST *FOREVER*...IN THE CRIMSON COSMOS-- AND YET, THERE HE *STANDS!*

NOT TO MENTION THE FACT HE'S PLAYIN' *ERECTOR SET* WITH THAT STRANGE-LOOKING MACHINE!

WHA... THE X-MEN! YOU SHOWED UP EVEN QUICKER THAN I *EXPECTED!*

KEEP YOUR EYES *GLUED* TO HIM! BE READY TO JUMP WHEN HE MAKES A *MOVE!*

WE ALWAYS *FEARED* YOU'D RETURN SOMEDAY, MARKO--BUT WHY AT A TIME LIKE *THIS*... AND *HOW?*

HOW? HOW HAVE I ALWAYS MANAGED TO RETURN? THROUGH THE STUPIDITY OF MY STEPBROTHER'S ETERNAL HOPE!

HE BUILT THIS MACHINE I'VE JUST DESTROYED TO BRING ME BACK HERE--AND NOW I'VE MADE SURE HE CAN NEVER USE IT TO SEND ME BACK!

NATURALLY-- BUT, NEEDLESS TO SAY, HE'S FAILED AGAIN!

THEN, THAT EXPLAINS WHY WE'VE NEVER SEEN THE MACHINE BEFORE-- THE PROFESSOR WAS BUILDING IT SECRETLY...

IT MUST HAVE BEEN SET TO ACTIVATE AUTOMATICALLY AT SOME PRE-DETERMINED TIME!

AND FOR THE LAST TIME I MIGHT ADD!

BECAUSE THIS TIME, I'LL FINISH HIM FOR GOOD!

WHA...THEN YOU DON'T KNOW?

HUH? WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I DON'T KNOW WHAT?

THEN YOU'VE COME ...TOO LATE!

WHAT IS THIS? STOP TALKIN' IN CIRCLES!

CYCLOPS IS TRYING TO TELL YOU THAT SOMETHING'S HAPPENED SINCE WE LAST FACED YOU!

HE'S TRYING TO SAY THAT...

PROFESSOR X IS DEAD!

NO!

YOU'RE LYING... TRYING TO TRICK ME!

BUT, FOR EVEN TRYING TO MAKE ME BELIEVE FATE COULD CHEAT ME OUT OF MY GREATEST GOAL...

YOU'RE GOING TO DIE--ALL OF YOU!

THEN, BEFORE THE YOUNG MUTANTS CAN BRACE FOR THE ONSLAUGHT...

WATCH OUT! HE'S COMING... UUNNNHHH!

WOK

RECOGNIZING AN ATTACK AND DODGING IT ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS, BEAST!

HEY! HANK CRASHED INTO THE AUXILIARY SUPPLY GENERATOR...

AND IT'S SHOOTING BOLTS OF SHEER ELECTRICAL POWER ALL OVER THE ROOM!

GOTTA TRY TO FLY ABOVE THEM AND... AARRGGHHHH!

HAR! THE ANGEL'S WINGS HAVE BEEN CLIPPED! AND YOU'RE GONNA BE NEXT, HOT-EYES!

HE'S HURTLING A HUGE PIECE OF MACHINERY AT ME! GOTTA DODGE...

...JUST MISSED ME... BUT IT'S HEADING RIGHT AT JEANNIE!

GOTTA MOVE FAST!

JEANNIE...LOOK OUT! GET YOUR HEAD DOWN!

WHA...?

ZAK!

THANK HEAVEN! I WAS ABLE TO DISINTE-GRATE IT IN MID-AIR... BEFORE IT REACHED YOU!

BUT YOUR ARMOR'S GONNA GET TARNISHED IN A HURRY, WHITE KNIGHT...

...WHEN I CAUSE THIS ENERGIZER TO BLOW SKY HIGH BY CLOGGING ITS AIR INTAKE!

AND, BEFORE THE YOUNG MUTANTS CAN DASH FOR COVER...

WHOOM

TOO LATE... MUST TRY TO SHIELD JEANNIE!

SHOCK WAVES ...TOO MUCH... STARTING TO... BLACK OUT!

OOOHHHH!

HOWEVER, WHEN THE SMOKE CLEARS, THE *YOUNGEST* OF CHARLES XAVIER'S STUDENTS REMAINS *STANDING* ABOVE THE LIMP FORMS OF HIS *FALLEN COMRADES*, AND...

YOU WERE SO BUSY ABSORBING THE EXPLOSION THAT YOU *FORGOT* SOMEBODY, CHROME-DOME!

AND THAT'S A BOO-BOO YOU'RE GONNA HAVE A LONG TIME TO *THINK* ABOUT!

HUH... ICEMAN! I FIGURED THE THE BLAST'D POLISH HIM OFF, *TOO!*

BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE THAT MUCH *DIFFERENCE...*

...BECAUSE NO MERE *CAKE OF ICE* CAN STOP ME!

NOTHING CAN KEEP ME FROM FINDING WHERE THEY'RE HIDING MY *STEP-BROTHER!*

DON'T *BET* ON IT, CHUCKLES! I CAN REPLACE ANY ICE YOU BLAST *THROUGH* JUST *LIKE THAT!*

AND MAYBE I CAN AT LEAST HOLD YOU LONG ENOUGH TO GET IT THROUGH YOUR SKULL THAT THE PROFESSOR'S *...DEAD!*

NEVER! YOUR TRICKS WON'T *WORK...* AND NEITHER WILL YOUR *POWERS!*

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS CONCENTRATE ALL OF MY *STRENGTH* ON A SMALL PART OF THIS *ICE-SHELL!*

...IT'S ALREADY STARTING TO *GIVE!*

I'VE *DONE* IT! I'M FREE... AND A HUGE CHUNK OF ICE IS HEADING DIRECTLY AT THE *SQUIRT!*

=UUNNHHHH!=

AND IT EVEN *HIT* 'IM! TOO BAD! I WOULD'A LIKED TO FINISH 'IM *PERSONALLY...*

...BUT NOW I CAN GET ON WITH THE MOST *IMPORTANT* PART OF THIS...

...FINDING... AND *DESTROYING...* PROFESSOR X.!

THEN, MOMENTS LATER, A PUZZLED AMOS DUNCAN AT LAST DISCOVERS WHY HIS YOUNG HOSTS *EXCUSED* THEMSELVES A FEW MINUTES EARLIER...

YOU! TELL ME WHERE CHARLES XAVIER IS HIDING...OR *DIE!*

WHAT IN BLAZES...?

THE MAN CALLED PROFESSOR X IS *DEAD!*

BUT, WHERE ARE THE *X-MEN?* WHAT HAVE YOU *DONE* WITH...

NOBODY QUESTIONS THE *JUGGER-NAUT,* BUDDY!

WHAK!

AND, SINCE YOU *ASKED* ABOUT THOSE MASKED HAS-BEENS, THAT MEANS YOU'RE THEIR *FRIEND* --AND MY *ENEMY!*

AND YOU LIED TO ME, *TOO*-- ABOUT MY STEP-BROTHER BEIN' DEAD!

SO JUST GET OUTTA MY *HAIR...* THE *FAST WAY!*

BLAM!

HOWEVER, AFTER AN EXHAUSTIVE, ROOM-TO-ROOM *SEARCH* OF THE SCHOOL...

IT'S NO *USE!* THEY MUST'VE HIDDEN HIM SOMEWHERE *ELSE*...UNLESS...

NO! HE CAN'T BE DEAD--BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT FOR *SURE!*

BUT, WE'LL HAVE TO *WAIT* A BIT TO FIND OUT *HOW,* SINCE WE FIGURE IT'S JUST ABOUT TIME WE GOT BACK TO THE *STARS* OF THIS SHOW...

MAN ALIVE! I FEEL LIKE I WAS HIT BY A *TANK!*

THANK HEAVEN NONE OF US WAS *SERIOUSLY HURT!*

SPEAK FOR *YOURSELF,* DEPUTY-LEADER! I'VE BEEN BATTERED SO BADLY--EVEN MY *EYE-LIDS* HURT!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT *THAT,* HANK! THEY'LL BE THE *LAST THING* YOU HAVE TO USE AGAINST THE JUGGERNAUT!

NOW LET'S GO *GET* HIM!

WE'RE RIGHT *BEHIND* YOU, WARREN! SING OUT THE SECOND YOU *SPOT* HIM!

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AND, WITHIN THE SPAN OF BUT A FEW *WING-FLAPPINGS...*

THERE HE *IS*, SCOTTY--JUST LIKE YOU *FIGURED!*

I'VE BEEN *CHEATED... ROBBED* OF THE REVENGE I *EXIST* FOR!

HE'S ACTUALLY *DEAD!*

DON'T LET IT *BOTHER* YOU, CHUBBY! YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF TIME FOR GRIEF *LATER!*

AFTER WE GET YOU LOCKED UP FOR *KEEPS!*

KRAK!

SO, YOU SNAPPED OUT OF IT QUICKER THAN I *THOUGHT!* OH WELL, YOU COULDN'T HAVE PICKED A BETTER SPOT TO GET *FINISHED!*

BUT, AS THE LIVING COLOSSUS MOVES IN FOR THE *KILL...*

HE ALMOST GOT *WARREN!* MUST STOP HIM LONG ENOUGH FOR THE *OTHERS* TO ACT!

WHAT IN...MARVEL GIRL! LIFTING ME OFF THE GROUND WITH TELEKINETIC FORCE BEAMS!

QUICK, HANK-- WHILE JEANNIE HAS HIM *DISTRACTED!*

GRAB THIS KING-SIZED BASEBALL AND MAKE LIKE *BOB GIBSON!*

I DON'T KNOW THE GENTLEMAN YOU *SPEAK OF*, MY FROSTY FRIEND...

...SINCE I CONFINE MY RUDIMENTARY ROOTING TO THE *METS!*

HOWEVER, YOU MAY REST ASSURED THAT I *DO* GET YOUR MESSAGE--AND WILL ACT *POST HASTE!*

BOOM

THEN, SUDDENLY...

I'VE PLAYED GAMES WITH YOU *LONG ENOUGH!* NOW IT'S TIME FOR THE *FINISH!*

WHAT TH...? GLOBULES OF *SHEER ENERGY...* FLYING AT US FROM HIM!

A BRILLIANT *DEDUCTION,* BOBBY-- ALTHOUGH NOT PARTICULARLY *HELPFUL* IN THIS SITUATION!

TRY TO TAKE *COVER!* THERE'S NO TELLING HOW *POWERFUL* THOSE THINGS MIGHT BE!

AND, AFTER HE AND HIS SUPER-POWERED COMPANIONS HAVE QUICKLY DARTED BEHIND THE NEAREST *TREES,* THE MUTANT NAMED SCOTT SUMMERS *ACTS...*

HE'S NEVER *USED* THOSE AGAINST US BEFORE! IT MUST BE SOME NEW *WEAPON* HE'S DEVELOPED!

WHATEVER IT IS, I MUST *STOP* IT...AND *HIM!*

ZAT!

BUT... IT'S NO *USE!* I CONCENTRATED ALL THE OPTIC STRENGTH I *HAVE* INTO THAT BLAST ...AND IT DIDN'T *FAZE* HIM!

AND NOW, HE SEEMS TO BE TURNING ALL HIS MIGHT ON *ME!*

BROOM

PHEW! AT LEAST THAT ANSWERS ANY QUESTIONS I HAD ABOUT HOW *POWERFUL* THE GLOBULES ARE...

A SINGLE *ONE* BROKE THE TREE IN *HALF!* IF ANY OF THEM SHOULD HIT *US...*

HOWEVER, AS CYCLOPS SCRAMBLES FOR HIS VERY *LIFE...*

ONLY ONE *HOPE* FOR US... IF I CAN REACH THE JUGGERNAUT'S MIND WITH A *MENTAL BOLT!*

THERE'S BEEN SO LITTLE TIME TO *DEVELOP* THE POWERS THE PROFESSOR DEVELOPED IN ME...

...BUT I MUST *TRY!* IF I *FAIL,* EVERYTHING THE PROFESSOR *LIVED* FOR WILL HAVE BEEN IN *VAIN!*

AAAGGGHHH!

SOME SHARP PAIN...STABBING THROUGH MY HEAD LIKE A *KNIFE!*

ONLY *PROFESSOR X* COULD DO THIS TO ME! HE MUST BE *ALIVE!*

BUT...THE PAIN IS SO *GREAT...* I CAN'T *STAND* IT! I HAVE TO MOVE... *FAST!*

HE'S...TRYING TO... TAKE OVER MY... *BRAIN!* BUT...I WON'T *LET* HIM... NOT WHEN I'M SO CLOSE...TO *WINNING!*

JUST AHEAD OF ME...*THE ANGEL!* IF I CAN JUST *REACH* HIM... BEFORE I LOSE *CONTROL*...

I *GOT* HIM...AND NOW,' THE REST OF YOU MAKE MY STEP-BROTHER TAKE THE *PRESSURE* OFF MY BRAIN!

DO AS I *SAY*... OR I'LL CRUSH THIS CLOD TO DEATH RIGHT BEFORE YOUR *EYES!*

NO...DON'T *HARM* HIM! I'LL STOP THE *MENTAL BOLTS!*

THE PROFESSOR IS *DEAD*, MARKO! BUT MARVEL GIRL HAS SOME OF HIS *POWERS* NOW!

IT'S *TRUE*...I *SWEAR* IT! SURELY YOU CAN FEEL THAT THE SUGGESTIONS I WAS BOMBARDING YOU WITH HAVE *STOPPED?*

I KNOW THAT THE *PAIN'S* GONE --BUT THERE'S NO WAY I CAN BE SURE YOU WON'T *START* AGAIN, UNLESS...

NNOOOOOOO! IT'S HAPPENING *AGAIN*...JUST LIKE *BEFORE!* SOMEHOW, I'M BEING TAKEN *BACK*--BACK TO WHERE I *CAME* FROM--!

HE'S...*DISAPPEARING*... JUST LIKE WHEN THE PROFESSOR SENT HIM INTO THE *CRIMSON COSMOS!*

YES...BUT, WITH THE PROFESSOR GONE...*HOW?*

THERE'S ONLY ONE POSSIBLE ANSWER!

KNOWING HIS BROTHER'S EVIL POWER, HE ARRANGED FOR THE EFFECTS OF HIS DEVICE TO WEAR OFF SHORTLY...IF HE WASN'T OTHERWISE TREATED!

BUT--HOW'S WARREN?

HE'S COMING TO, SCOTT! I THINK HE'S ALL RIGHT... JUST BADLY SHAKEN UP!

CAN YOU HEAR ME, WARREN? OH, THANK HEAVEN YOU AREN'T SERIOUSLY HURT!

NOTHING...LIKE THAT, JEANNIE! BUT...WHERE'S THE JUGGERNAUT?

HOWEVER BEFORE ANYONE CAN FILL HIM IN...

AGENT DUNCAN! I'D FORGOTTEN YOU? ARE YOU HURT?

SORRY I DIDN'T GET HERE SOONER, SCOTT --BUT I HAD A LITTLE RUN-IN WITH THE JUGGERNAUT MYSELF!

NOTHING THAT A LITTLE LINIMENT WON'T CURE! NOW LET'S GET BACK TO THE SCHOOL!

WHAT'S JUST HAPPENED MAKES IT ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT THAT I TALK TO YOU...

...BECAUSE THIS PROVES THAT IT'S MANDATORY THAT YOU...

...SPLIT UP!

WITH THE PROFESSOR GONE, IT ISN'T WISE FOR ALL OF YOU TO BE HERE TOGETHER...

...YOU MAKE FAR TOO EASY A TARGET... FOR THE EVER-GROWING POPULATION OF EVIL MUTANTS!

THIS, COUPLED WITH THE FACT THAT YOU CAN BE MUCH MORE EFFECTIVE IF YOU SPREAD YOURSELVES OUT ACROSS THE COUNTRY...

...FORCES ME TO ORDER YOU TO DISBAND... AND LEAVE THIS SCHOOL FOREVER!

YOU'LL EACH RECEIVE A LETTER FROM ME IN A FEW DAYS... INSTRUCTIONS AS TO WHERE YOU SHOULD GO!

THEN, AFTER THE HEAD OF THE FBI'S SPECIAL MUTANT DIVISION HAS DEPARTED, THE X-MEN PONDER HIS WORDS WITH HEAVY HEARTS...

WE HAVE NO CHOICE! WE'VE GOT TO OBEY DUNCAN'S ORDER!

BUT ORDERS SUCH AS HIS ARE UNQUESTIONABLY UNCONSTITUTIONAL, SCOTT! NOBODY CAN TELL US WHERE TO LIVE...OR WHAT TO DO!

HE KNOWS THAT... BUT I ALSO THINK HE'S RIGHT WHEN HE SAYS WE COULD FIGHT EVIL MUTANTS MORE EFFECTIVELY IF WE WERE SPREAD OUT...

...SO THAT SOME OF US COULD GET TO THE SCENE OF EVIL MUTANT ACTIVITY FASTER!

THEREFORE, SINCE I'M *DEPUTY LEADER*...AND SINCE I FEEL THE PROFESSOR WOULD WANT US TO DO AS DUNCAN *ASKS*...

...I'M ORDERING YOU ALL TO *START PACKING!* AS OF THIS MOMENT...

...*THE X-MEN NO LONGER EXIST AS A TEAM!*

IF...THAT'S WHAT YOU *WANT*, SCOTT...I GUESS WE'LL HAVE TO GO *ALONG* WITH IT!

I THOUGHT *NOTHING* COULD HIT US AS HARD AS THE PROFESSOR'S *DEATH*...BUT NOW...*THIS*--!

THEN, SOME TWO HOURS *LATER*...

THAT ABOUT *DOES* IT! I DON'T GUESS I CAN PUT OFF LEAVING *ANY LONGER!*

IT...IT'S SOMEHOW LIKE I'VE SUDDENLY BEEN *ORPHANED!*

NOT ONLY AM I LOSING THE *FAMILY* I'VE KNOWN FOR THESE PAST YEARS...

...THIS ALSO MEANS I MAY VERY WELL LOSE THE MAN I *LOVE!*

FINALLY...

SO LONG FOR NOW, BOBBY--BUT PULL UP THE *CHIN!* IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE *FOREVER!*

I *KNOW*, SCOTTY--BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE IT *HURT* ANY LESS! *GOODBYE!*

AND, WITHIN BUT A FEW SHORT MOMENTS...

WE'RE PASSING THROUGH THIS DOORWAY...FOR THE *LAST TIME*--

BUCK UP, HANK, LAD! YOUR *GLASSES* ARE STARTING TO *FOG UP!*

--GOING BACK TO OUR *PARENTS'* HOMES...TILL *AGENT DUNCAN* CONTACTS

AM I ACTUALLY GOING TO STAND HERE AND LET THE ONLY GIRL I'LL EVER LOVE WALK OUT OF MY *LIFE?*

HE...HE ISN'T GOING TO COME *AFTER* ME! MAYBE HE DOESN'T CARE *AFTER ALL!*

I DON'T KNOW FOR *SURE*...AND IF WE'RE SENT TO DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD, PERHAPS I'LL NEVER *FIND OUT!*

NEXT: THE MACABRE *MENACE* OF THE MAN CALLED... *MAHA YOGI!*

THE ORIGINS OF THE UNCANNY X-MEN!™

"...AND THEN THERE WERE TWO"

WE GOT 'EM NOW, BOYS! LOOKS LIKE THEIR POWERS GAVE OUT!

I BELIEVE YER RIGHT, CLEM!

THEY'VE GUESSED IT! HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS WHAT THEY'LL DO NOW!

I'VE BEEN A FOOL!

YOU'RE NOT HUMAN BEINGS ...YOU'RE LIKE A PACK OF WILD ANIMALS!

SAVE YER BREATH, KID--YER GONNA NEED IT WHEN WE STRING YA UP!

C'MON, BOYS! LET'S STRETCH THEIR NECKS!

EDITED BY:	SCRIPT BY:	PENCILLED BY:	INKED BY:	LETTERED BY:
STAN LEE	GARY FRIEDRICH	GEORGE TUSKA	JOHN TARTAGLIONE	ARTIE SIMEK

BUT, JUST AS THE HELPLESSLY EXHAUSTED MUTANTS ARE ABOUT TO BE HAULED AWAY...

HOLD IT!

THERE'LL BE NO LYNCHINGS IN THIS TOWN AS LONG AS I'M SHERIFF!

THIS AINT THE WILD WEST ANY-MORE! THINGS ARE HANDLED BY DUE PROCESS OF LAW-- AND ANY MAN THINKS DIFFERENT'LL HAVE TO GO OVER ME!

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NOW PUT DOWN THOSE GUNS AND GO HOME... ALL OF YOU!

THE MOB'S TOO ANGRY AND FILLED WITH HATE! THEY'LL NEVER LISTEN TO HIM!

I CAN TAKE THESE TWO TO JAIL BY MYSELF! NOW FOR THE LAST TIME... GET THAT GUN OUTTA MY FACE!

DID YOU SEE THAT... HE PUSHED JAKE! HE MUST BE SOME KIND'A MUTANT-LOVER!

WELL, IT AIN'T GONNA DO 'IM NO GOOD-- 'CAUSE WE'RE GONNA HANG THOSE TWO...

...WHETHER THE SHERIFF LIKES IT OR NOT!

THEN, BEFORE THE STARTLED LAWMAN CAN MAKE A MOVE...

WE GOT 'IM!

YOU JUST HOLD REAL STILL, SHERIFF! WE DON'T MEAN TO HURT YOU!

WAIT, YOU FOOLS! YOU'LL ALL SEE JAIL IF YOU GO THROUGH WITH THIS! I SWEAR YOU WILL!

THAT'S ALL WE NEEDED TO KNOW! JUST KEEP 'IM QUIET TILL WE GET THE LYNCHIN' OVER!

CLAM UP, LAW DOG! WE KNOW WHAT WE'RE DOIN'!

NOW JUST HOLD REAL STILL, FREAK --AND WE'LL TRY NOT TO DRAG YOU TOO FAST!

YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE! WE DON'T WANT TO HARM YOU!

IT'S NO USE, FELLA! THEY'RE NOT ABOUT TO LISTEN!

AND, JUST NOW, MY POWER'S TOO WEAK TO SNAP OUT OF THIS ROPE!

SO IS MINE--BUT I HAVE TO PUT UP A FRONT... SO THEY WON'T SUSPECT...

...THAT I'M STALLING FOR TIME FOR MY POWER TO BUILD UP!

AND I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU DO THE SAME!

THEN, AFTER SEVERAL MINUTES OF BEING DRAGGED THROUGH THE SMALL TOWN *STREETS...*

JUST *HANG ON*, DRAKE! IF THEY JUST WAIT A FEW SECONDS *LONGER...*

WE JUST MAY HAVE A *CHANCE!*

YEAH, SURE! I'M A GREAT BELIEVER IN *MIRACLES!*

HOWEVER, IF THE ANXIOUS MUTANTS ONLY KNEW, A LIVING MIRACLE NAMED *CHARLES XAVIER* IS AT THAT VERY MOMENT ONLY A FEW MILES *AWAY...*

I CAN REACH THEM IN JUST A FEW MINUTES *MORE!* AND I'LL BE ABLE TO RECOMMUNICATE WITH SCOTT ANY *SECOND* NOW!

I SHOULD BE WITHIN TWO MILES OF HIM BY NOW... SO I MUST *TRY...*

AND PRAY THAT I'M NOT *TOO LATE!*

THUS...

SCOTT... LISTEN TO ME!

YOU MUST BREAK FREE *NOW...* AND HEAD FOR *DRAKE'S HOME!*

HE MUST BE *COMING* HERE!

A MENTAL MESSAGE... FROM THE *PROFESSOR!*

MUST ACT *NOW...* AND HOPE I HAVE ENOUGH *STRENGTH!*

C'MON! *STOP STALLIN'*, WILL YA!

SUDDENLY...

LAP!

CLEAR OUTTA HERE! HE'S GOT THEM *EYE-BEAMS* WORKIN' AGAIN!

RUN, BOBBY! HEAD FOR YOUR HOUSE.. AND START USING YOUR *POWERS* AGAIN IF YOU *CAN!*

ANYTHING YOU *SAY*, FELLA!

AND I THINK I'M FINALLY STARTING TO *ICE UP* AGAIN!

HOWEVER, ALTHOUGH A HUNTED BEAST SOMETIMES REARS ITS HEAD AND *FRIGHTENS* THE HUNTER--THE HUNTER NEVER GIVES UP HIS *QUARRY*...

NOW THAT I'M OUTTA *RANGE*... I CAN GET A *BEAD* ON 'EM!

JUST ANOTHER SECOND AND I'LL HAVE THE ONE WITH THE CRAZY EYES *ZEROED IN*...

BUT, A SECOND IS MORE THAN THE WOULD-BE SNIPER *HAS*...

WATCH IT, JOE! THE DRAKE KID'S...

WOK!

-UUNNHHH!-

YOU LOUSY *CREEP!* YOU WON'T GET A *CHANCE* TO SNEAK UP ON *ME* LIKE THAT!

MAYBE *HE* WON'T...

KRAK!

...BUT YOU FORGOT TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THAT THERE ARE *TWO* OF US!

ASH

GET MOVING, DRAKE... WHILE I FINISH OFF THIS CRUMB! THE OTHERS WILL BE *AFTER* US AGAIN!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME *TWICE!*

THERE THEY ARE! LET'S CUT 'EM DOWN!

WOOOM!

RUN AS THOUGH YOUR VERY LIFE *DEPENDED* ON IT, BOBBY--'CAUSE BELIEVE ME, *IT DOES!*

JUST *FOLLOW ME*, PAL! I'LL LEAD YOU STRAIGHT TO *MY PLACE*...THO I DON'T SEE WHAT'S GONNA SAVE US WHEN WE *GET* THERE!

THEY GOTTA BE HEADIN' FOR THE *DRAKE KID'S PLACE!* LET'S TAKE A SHORT CUT AND *HEAD 'EM OFF!*

WE CAN *CORNER* 'EM THERE--AND *SMOKE 'EM OUT* IF WE HAVE TO!

THEY'RE GIVING UP THE *CHASE!* AND RUNNING IN ANOTHER *DIRECTION!*

WHAT DO YOU *MAKE* OF IT?

THERE'S A *SHORTER ROUTE* TO MY HOUSE...DOWN OAK STREET OVER THERE!

THEN WE'D BETTER *MAKE TRACKS!* WE HAVE TO BEAT THEM THERE...*NO MATTER WHAT!*

BUT, AT THAT *PRECISE INSTANT*...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE *MOB*, SCOTT! THEY'VE BEEN TAKEN CARE OF!

JUST BRING THE DRAKE BOY TO HIS HOME! EVERYTHING IS *UNDER CONTROL!*

THANK THE LORD! THE PROFESSOR'S *HERE!* HE MUST HAVE CALLED THE CROWD OFF... BUT *HOW?*

AND, THE FIRST X-MAN IS NOT LONG IN GETTING HIS *ANSWER!* FOR, SOME TEN MINUTES LATER, AT THE *DRAKE HOUSEHOLD*...

SO IT WASN'T DIFFICULT FOR ME TO ERASE EVERYTHING THAT HAD HAPPENED FROM THE MOB'S *MEMORIES*...

...ALTHOUGH I'M CERTAIN IT WAS A LITTLE *PUZZLING* FOR ALL OF THEM!

SO NOW, THE IMPORTANT THING IS WHAT'S TO BECOME OF *YOU*, BOBBY!

HOWEVER, I THINK I CAN ALSO PROVIDE A SOLUTION TO *THAT* PROBLEM!

BECAUSE YOUR PARENTS HAVE CONSENTED FOR YOU TO BECOME A STUDENT AT MY *SPECIAL SCHOOL!*

THERE, YOUR MUTANT POWERS WILL BE DEVELOPED TO A *FINE POINT*...AND I WILL TEACH YOU TO USE THEM IN COMBATTING THE FORCES OF *EVIL!*

YOU WILL BE *SAFE* THERE...AND IT WILL AFFORD YOU THE CHANCE TO *DO* SOMETHING WITH YOUR POWERS! WHAT DO YOU SAY?

IT SOUNDS *GOOD* TO ME-- BUT WHAT ABOUT MY *FOLKS?*

I WILL *WIPE OUT* THEIR MEMORIES OF YOUR MUTANT POWERS! THEY WILL ONLY KNOW THAT YOU ARE A STUDENT AT MY SCHOOL!

THEN, I GUESS THAT *SETTLES* IT!

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS FOR ME TO SAY MY *GOODBYES!*

SCOTT, TODAY WE SAY GOODBYE TO THE *X-MAN*--AND BEGIN THE ERA OF *THE X-MEN!*

NEXT

A SPECIAL FEATURE GIVING YOU THE INSIDE INFO ON

ICEMAN'S POWERS!